

ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to norketamine and ketamine/norketamine prodrugs, and methods of their use as analgesics. More particularly, the invention relates to norketamine and N-conjugated prodrugs of ketamine and norketamine, and methods of using these agents for the management of chronic pain without requiring administration of narcotics. The invention relates to self-management of pain on an outpatient basis comprising administering via conventional routes, including transdermal, nasal, rectal, oral, transmucosal, intravenous, intramuscular, and other routes, one or more doses of norketamine and/or ketamine/norketamine prodrugs effective to alleviate pain to a subject suffering from pain. Uses of norketamine and ketamine/norketamine prodrugs would also apply, to treating headaches, drug abuse, mood and anxiety disorders, as well as other neuropsychiatric disorders, both motoric and cognitive, such as Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's syndrome, which are thought to be caused by neurodegeneration.